

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, the claims have been amended only in order to improve the form thereof and not for reasons of patentability.

Claims 1, 3 and 31 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Ban et al. For at least the following reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are not anticipated by Ban. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The Examiner asserts that the auxiliary lines 5 of Ban correspond to the storage capacitor common wire of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully submits that this assertion is not supported by the actual teachings of Ban. For example, Column 7, lines 63 to 66, of Ban states that "[e]ach auxiliary line 5 forms a pair with corresponding signal line 2 for each pixel electrode 4". Accordingly, Fig. 1 illustrates an arrangement in which the auxiliary lines 5 are connected to the corresponding signals lines 2 whereby the auxiliary lines 5 and the signals lines 2 form a ladder-like configuration. Moreover, at Column 10, lines 14 to 18, it is stated that the auxiliary lines 5 have a role to prevent the generation of a line-shaped defect due to the disconnection. Thus, it is clear from the disclosure of Ban that the auxiliary lines 5 are auxiliary signal lines and are not relevant

claimed storage capacitor common lines. The rejection is untenable for at least this reason.

The Examiner further asserts that the auxiliary capacitance electrode 10 (see the Column 8, lines 26 to 27), has a function "for constituting a storage capacitor with the pixel electrode therebetween". Applicant respectfully submits that this assertion also fails to be supported by the actual disclosure of Ban. First, as clearly seen in Fig. 3, the auxiliary capacitance electrode 10 is electrically connected with the pixel electrode 4 (see the Column 8, lines 34 to 36). Further, Column 8, lines 40 to 43 states that "[t]he auxiliary capacitance has the Cs on Common structure composed of the Cs line 3, the Cs electrode 10 and the gate insulating film 9 sandwiched therebetween." Therefore, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Ban does not disclose an arrangement in which the auxiliary capacitance 10 constitutes a storage capacitor with the pixel electrode 4.

In view of the above, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 31 are not supported by the cited prior art. Specifically, Ban fails to identically teach each and every element set forth in the claims, as required for anticipation under Section 102. Substantially the same deficiencies in the rejection exist with respect to Claim 34. Thus, claims 1, 31 and 34 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejections and allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

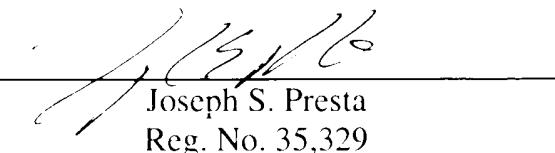
NAGATA et al.
Appl. No. 09/520,609
September 5, 2003

Should the Examiner have any questions or deem that any further issues need to be addressed prior to allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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